

Remarks/Arguments:

Claims 14, 15, 17-19, 21, 22, 37-40 and 43 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Horton (US 4,945,563) in view of Yoo (US 5,497,240). It is respectfully submitted, however, that these claims are patentable over the art of record for the reasons set forth below.

Applicant's invention, as recited by claim 14, includes a feature which is neither disclosed nor suggested by the art of record, namely:

...recording of said information in said medium is permitted
if a value of an identifier read from said medium is an
approved ID value,

recording of said information in said medium is prevented if
any approved ID value is not readable from said medium.

This feature is supported by the original patent at column 8, line 22, where an "approved ID number" is specifically described.

In rejecting Applicant's claims, the Official Action cited Horton as disclosing the feature of charging a different amount depending upon whether information is recorded. The Official Action also acknowledged that Horton lacked the previous claimed feature of recording information "dependent upon a value of an identifier read from the medium." Yoo was cited for that feature. Applicant has thus amended claim 14 to recite that the recording is dependent upon the reading of an approved ID value. Thus, not just any value in the recording medium will result in recording to that medium. Rather, the ID value read from the medium has to be an approved value. Yoo's ID codes are not the basis of the starting of recording. Yoo can record to a new tape that does not have an ID code. In Yoo, if an ID code is not detected, then recording can still occur. This is completely different from Applicant's claim 14, where recording to the medium is prevented if approved ID values are not readable from Applicant's medium. Thus, claim 14 is patentable over Yoo.

Applicant's remaining independent claims, while not identical to claim 14, are also patentable over the art of record for reasons similar to those set forth above with regard to claim 14.

The remaining dependent claims are patentable by virtue of their dependency on allowable independent claims.

Claim 42 is amended. The amendment is supported at column 4, lines 45-46. No new matter has been added.

Claims 44-57 are newly added. Claim 44 recites Applicant's use of a storage medium which is non sequentially accessible. Mediums that are non sequentially accessible are understood to include disk mediums and semi-conductor mediums. This is supported by the original patent at column 3, lines 11-15. Yoo very specifically discloses that his patent is directed towards sequentially accessible mediums, namely, tape mediums. The entire point of Yoo's invention is to index tape (i.e. sequentially accessible) mediums. The use of a non sequentially accessible medium completely destroys the purpose of Yoo's invention. Thus, claim 44 is patentable over the art of record.

Claim 45 is also newly added. Claim 45 recites that Applicant's approved ID value is provided by the provider of the information being provided to the recipient. This feature is completely lacking from the art of record. Accordingly, claim 45 is patentable over the art of record.

The remaining dependent claims (newly added) are patentable for reasons similar to those set forth above with regard to claims 44 and 45.

In view of the amendments and arguments set forth above, the above-identified application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested.

Application No.: 09/632,139
Amendment Dated: December 11, 2006
Reply to Office Action of: August 10, 2006

MAT-3720US4

Respectfully submitted,



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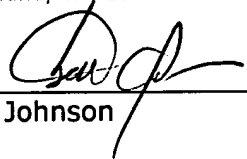
Dated: December 11, 2006

Enclosure:
Status and Support of Claims As Of This Amendment

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The Director is hereby authorized to charge or credit Deposit Account No. **18-0350** for any additional fees, or any underpayment or credit for overpayment in connection herewith.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA, 22313-1450 on December 11, 2006.



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